pointed out that they had to travel long distances for registration of documents and the nearest Sub-registrar's office, *viz.*, the one at Kanjirapalli, was a most unsafe, incommodious and ricketty thatched building. He prayed that Government might be pleased to open a new Sub-registrar's office at Araday in the heart of Peermade, as also to repair the Kanjirapalli office and provide a waiting room for parties in these offices.

Reply.—The suggestion for opening an office at Araday will be referred to the Director of Registration. As regards the change of situation of registration offices generally, this will be considered in course of time. As for repairs to the Kanjirapalli office, the matter is under correspondence and orders will be soon passed to put up a new building. The question of a waiting room will also be considered in that connection.

106. Desirability of replacing the present class of document writers by a set of competent conveyancers.

Mr. Padmanabhan Tampi (*Vilavankod*) in whose name this subject stood withdrew the same.

107. Abolition of the rule requiring parties to furnish copies of all documents presented for registration in Sub-registrars' offices.

Mr. K. Krishnan Pandalay, B. A., B. L., (*Quilon*) pointed out that the rule above referred to did not obtain in British India and was a source of unnecessary expense, delay and inconvenience to parties aud needless waste of energy and time to the officers and clerks of the Registration department. He requested that orders might be issued to abolish the rule requiring the production of copies.

Reply.—The Director of Registration has been already asked to submit his proposals on this question and when his report is received the matter will be considered.

108. Desirability of strengthening the frontier police to keep out dacoits from the Tinnevelly District and of making the Desakavalkars independent of the police, to enable them to serve the villagers direct.

Mr. M. D. Daniel, B. A., (*T. I. C., Nagercoil*) said that dacoity in South Travancore was a matter of annual occurrence and all the precautionary measures of Government had hitherto proved fruitless. The member had come with no set scheme for improving the police

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there and putting the force on an efficient basis, but left it to the Government to devise such measures as might be calculated to prevent a recurrence of the evil complained of.

Mr. N. Velayudhaperumal Pillai (Agastisvaram) also spoke on the subject.

Mr. K. S. Shanmukham Pillai (Agricultural Improvement Association, South Travancore) observed that the Desakavalkars of Nanjanad were people originally appointed and even now paid by the ryots for protecting them from the inroads of dacoits from Tinnevelly, but it was a matter of grievance that while they still continued to pay and maintain these functionaries, they were placed by Government not under the control of the people themselves, but of the police. The present arrangement while it was in no way beneficial was a fruitful source of evil to them. The member prayed that the Desakavalkars might be taken back from the control of the police and made independent of them, in which case they would serve the interests of the villagers. He also requested that their appointment might be vested in the taluk Tahsildars.

Reply.—A scheme formulated by the Superintendent of Police has been referred to the officers concerned for their opinion and is awaiting replies from them. Government are aware of the difficulties complained of and will consider the matter and pass orders.

109. Employment of an efficient detective police force and conjoint investigation of grave offences by the Police officer and the Magistrate.

Mr. K. Appathura Iyer, B. A., B. L., (Nedumangad) said that a fair knowledge of criminal law was indispensable for policemen, but it was doubtful whether the station-house officers of this State could all be said to possess any knowledge of this law. Undue importance was attached to confessions which could in no case be voluntary and this very often resulted in miscarriage of justice. The organization of an efficient detective police force would attract a better class of educated men to the police service. It was also desirable to lay down a rule that in cases of serious offences the Police Inspector and the Sub-magistrate should jointly conduct the investigation.

Mr. Kanakku Mathevan Mathevan (Nedumangad) also spoke on the subject.

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